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President: Ms. Marie Chatardova ..... (Czechia)

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(c) Development Cooperation Forum

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The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

Agenda item 5: High-level segment

(c) Development Cooperation Forum (E/2018/55)

Opening statements

1. **The President** declared open the Development Cooperation Forum of the Economic and Social Council at its 2018 session. Inequality, migration, climate change, the rise of violent extremism and populism and the shrinking of civic space posed challenges to hard-won development gains. Development cooperation, however, could turn those trends around and help to promote sustainable development for all. Capacity support, the sharing of technical know-how and multi-stakeholder partnership, in addition to financing, were essential for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

2. The 2018 Forum was the culmination of an extensive preparatory process, which had included a symposium and the Development Cooperation Forum survey. The rich ideas and policy recommendations that would emerge from the Forum would be brought before the high-level political forum on sustainable development in July 2018. A key question was how to ensure that national strategies and support provided to developing countries met the aspirations set forth in the 2030 Agenda.

3. **The Deputy Secretary-General** said that, although remarkable progress had been made, much remained to be done to build sustainable and resilient societies. Globally, 767 million people lived on less than $1.90 a day and some 793 million were undernourished. More than 300,000 women had died during pregnancy or childbirth and 5.9 million children under the age of 5 years had died worldwide in 2015. Most of those deaths had been from preventable causes. Gender inequality remained deeply entrenched and women and girls faced violence in all societies. Young people continued to face alarmingly high rates of unemployment. In 2014, 9 per cent of primary-school-aged children worldwide had been out of school. More than 2 billion people were living in countries that faced extreme water stress and 9 out of 10 city-dwellers were exposed to air pollution. Global warming was contributing to annual losses of between $250 billion and $300 billion through natural disasters.

4. More progress was needed on sustainable energy and greater investment in sustainable infrastructure. Good quality education must be brought within the reach of all. Least developed countries and other countries in special situations received too little official development assistance (ODA) or other forms of development funding, such as blended finance. Development partners should make a priority of meeting commitments with regard to ODA and improving its quality, and work with governments and stakeholders to improve its effectiveness. Targeted action was needed to remove barriers that kept women, young people, indigenous people, persons with disabilities, refugees and other vulnerable groups on the margins of society. Leaving no one behind was critical to ensuring a life in dignity for all, stemming the rising tide of populism and violent extremism and sustaining peace.

5. Governments alone could not deliver the ambitious vision of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. More had to be done to foster partnerships and facilitate the alignment of institutions, policies and actions with the 2030 Agenda. The private sector had a crucial role to play in fostering innovation, capacity-building and technology development and transfer, and in dramatically scaling up investment. Multi-stakeholder partnerships had the potential to deliver better and more sustainable development results. With regard to blended finance, public-private partnerships and investment agreements must be accompanied by solid regulatory frameworks, transparent fiscal accounting and adequate risk management.

6. South-South cooperation was delivering lasting results and strategies for boosting its contribution to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals would be examined at the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, which would be held in Buenos Aires in 2019.

7. The implementation of the 2030 Agenda was a collective responsibility. For that reason, the United Nations was repositioning its development system in order to improve its coherence, effectiveness and accountability at the country level. It was critical to increase the system's capacity to support the 2030 Agenda and the unprecedented scale of action and financing it required. The United Nations was committed to enhancing its approach to partnerships to help developing countries to mobilize the resources, expertise and technologies necessary to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

8. **Mr. Liu** Zhenmin (Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs), introducing the report of the Secretary-General on trends and progress in international development cooperation (E/2018/55), said that development cooperation should remain focused on implementing the 2030 Agenda. Countries with limited capacity, in particular, needed support to move from simply managing disasters to reducing risk

and building resilience. National sustainable development strategies and development cooperation policies made it possible to better tailor development cooperation to the needs of beneficiary countries. Key issues included building capacity, strengthening domestic resource mobilization, generating high-quality data and fostering country-owned strategies and policies on science, technology and innovation.

9. Blended finance had considerable potential but ODA remained a vital source of development finance. The use of ODA for blended financing projects should be guided by principles of effective development cooperation. It was a source of concern that increasingly less ODA was being channelled into social spending. Efforts were required to bring the private sector into alignment with the principles of sustainable development, to broaden South-South and triangular cooperation and to strengthen the engagement of civil society, parliamentarians and local authorities, including in the monitoring of progress.

10. **Mr. Heimans** (Co-founder and Chief Executive Officer, Purpose), delivering the keynote address, said that development cooperation had traditionally been organized from the top down, with donors in a position of authority and beneficiaries comparatively passive and compliant. That approach left those whose lives needed to be transformed without agency. However, technological advances had spawned a new source of popular power that could be mobilized in support of any given cause. That had been illustrated by a social media campaign started by an 11-year-old pupil with a mobile telephone to save a school in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from demolition prior to the Olympic Games of 2016. The campaign, which had been supported by Purpose, had not only prompted the mayor of the city to reverse the demolition order but had also led to a broad public debate on more accountable development in the run-up to the Games. Further examples included the Me Too movement against sexual harassment and a social movement in India combating sexual violence. Similarly, the wave of solidarity that had inspired people across Europe to welcome refugees arriving in 2015 had been unleashed by a social media campaign. Populist and nativist movements, too, had recognized the power of social media and were using them successfully to achieve their own ends.

11. Many movements emanating from social media campaigns were characterized by a lack of central leadership. Rather, anyone could adapt such campaigns to their own circumstances and cultural context, thereby unlocking powerful dynamics. The United Nations, therefore, needed to tap into and indeed feed the hunger of people who, from an early age, wished to change the world. One way of doing so and reversing the trend of declining trust in institutions was to emulate the approach of popular social media platforms in order to engage people and provide them with the opportunity to shape their own destiny. In that way, institutions could garner popular support for development cooperation.

12. **Ms. Randel** (Co-founder and Strategic Adviser, Development Initiatives), moderator, said that people had been left behind by the march of progress in all societies; the simple North-South dynamics no longer applied.

13. **Mr. El Ashmawy** (Observer for Egypt), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, urged all countries that had not yet met the United Nations target of allocating 0.7 per cent of gross national income to ODA to make every effort to do so. The developed countries must fulfil their commitments and thereby support national efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. The decline in country programmable aid jeopardized the principle of country ownership and efforts to align international support with the priorities of developing countries. South-South cooperation had the potential to boost international efforts to achieve sustainable development but was no substitute for North-South cooperation. Moreover, South-South cooperation should be guided by the established principles of respect for national sovereignty, national ownership and independence, equality, non-conditionality, non-interference in domestic affairs and mutual benefit.

14. Technology had a role to play in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals but developing countries, in particular least developed countries, landlocked countries and small island developing States, were constrained by a lack of capacity and infrastructure. There was a need for rapid, universal and affordable access to information and communication technology and technology transfer to developing countries on favourable terms.

15. The Development Cooperation Forum should serve as a platform for discussing how to better align the efforts of specialized agencies and international financial institutions with the international commitment to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

16. **Mr. Bin Momen** (Observer for Bangladesh), speaking on behalf of the least developed countries, said that most of those countries had capacity for average growth of 4.8 per cent in gross domestic product, well below the minimum of 7 per cent set forth in target 8.1 of the Sustainable Development Goals. On current trends, the goal of eradicating extreme poverty by 2030 could not be achieved and least developed countries, in

particular, would fall well short of that objective. They faced considerable gaps in investment, including for poverty alleviation, sustainable energy, public service delivery, information and communication technology and climate change adaptation.

17. Bilateral ODA, which was their chief source of external finance, remained far below the target of between 0.15 and 0.2 per cent of gross national income in ODA to least developed countries. Development partners should aim to reach that target by 2030. There was also a need for progress on the establishment of an international investment support centre for least developed countries under the auspices of the United Nations that would help to stimulate foreign direct investment. The Technology Bank for Least Developed Countries would require sustained technical and financial contributions from Member States. Development and trading partners of graduating and recently graduated least developed countries ought to phase the withdrawal of their support in such a way as to avoid any adverse impact on the development of those countries.

18. **Mr. Almino** (Observer for Brazil), drawing attention to paragraphs 9, 29, 38 and 41 of the report of the Secretary-General, underlined the importance of ODA investment in the social sector and the collection of statistics on progress towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in countries most in need. South-South and triangular cooperation were helping to promote a shift from a narrow financial focus to a broader partnership approach and an emphasis on non-financial cooperation. Brazil had used the concept of trilateral cooperation to build guiding principles for triangular cooperation. Country-led systems devised by Southern partners to evaluate the quality and impact of South-South and triangular cooperation programmes should be shared at the international level.

19. **Mr. Heimans** (Co-founder and Chief Executive Officer, Purpose) said that focusing too closely on the detail of which countries had or had not achieved the ODA target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income could distract attention from the broader need for advocacy of multilateral cooperation. That required bold new leadership to revitalize the debate on development cooperation.

20. **Mr. Liu** Zhenmin (Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs) emphasized the role that finance for development, innovation and science and technology cooperation had to play in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. A fourth industrial revolution was underway and it remained to be seen whether it would benefit all. It was important, in that context, to determine how poor countries could best be helped to map out strategies and build capacity to achieve sustainable development.

21. **Ms. Randel** (Co-founder and Strategic Adviser, Development Initiatives) noted that the 2030 Agenda set out what needed to be done, while the ambition of leaving no one behind focused on whom should be helped: the approximately 20 per cent of the world's population that accounted for only 1 per cent of global income. Action was needed urgently not only in the social sector, but also in the areas of technology and energy, if those people were not to be left still further behind.

22. **Mr. Asthana** (India) said that greater clarity was required as to what constituted ODA. A tendency to count climate change finance as part of ODA was contrary to the spirit of the Cancun Agreements. Had all the developed countries that had committed themselves to meeting the 0.7 per cent ODA target done so by 2013, an additional $184 billion in aid would have been made available. North-South cooperation remained the backbone of development cooperation.

23. **Mr. Moraru** (Republic of Moldova) said that a common council for partnership which had been established in his country in 2011 provided a platform for dialogue between the Government, development partners and representatives of the private sector and civil society on sustainable development in line with national priorities. Development cooperation remained essential, given the scale of the investment required to meet the goals of the 2030 Agenda. Support from development partners was needed to build capacity and effective institutions. It was encouraging to see more being done to harness private sector resources; blended finance and public-private partnerships would be critical for sustainable development.

24. **Mr. De Fraia** (ActionAid) said that, as the policies on and approaches to development cooperation evolved, there appeared to be a renewed understanding of the importance of the role of ODA and concessional financing. The needs of least developed countries and small island developing States could not be met by blended finance. The call in the report of the Secretary-General for a more systematic approach to the emerging principles for blended finance was welcome.

25. **Ms. Palomares** (Reality of Aid Network) lamented the decline in recent years in country programmable aid. The amounts allocated to ODA did not even cover aid that was tied to the purchase of goods and services from the donor countries and that therefore, in effect, the largest recipients of aid were the donors themselves. It was time to stop focusing on the quantity of aid while turning a blind eye to the trade-offs

involved in mobilizing finance. In addition to striving to meet their commitment to allocate 0.7 per cent of gross national income to ODA, donor countries should ensure that aid was used to reduce poverty and inequality.

26. **Mr. Momeni** (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that development was a long-term issue and it would be interesting to know more about the strategy of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, and of the United Nations in general, in that regard.

27. **Mr. Liu** Zhenmin (Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs) said that the Secretary-General had called for the restructuring of the United Nations development system. The priorities of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs were closely aligned with the 2030 Agenda and United Nations agencies would develop appropriate strategies through the United Nations Sustainable Development Group. The Member States, however, had ownership of the 2030 Agenda. The task of the United Nations was to mobilize support in order to facilitate its implementation by them.

28. **Ms. Randel** (Co-founder and Strategic Adviser, Development Initiatives) said that, although ODA represented only 8 per cent of financial flows to developing countries, it was nonetheless the most important source of development funding for some countries. Concern expressed by some about the danger of dilution and diversion of aid should be taken seriously. It was important not only to find the most effective means of leveraging ODA to stimulate other forms of funding but also to consider how the remaining 92 per cent of global funding and the 99.7 per cent of donor country resources that were not allocated to ODA could be harnessed in the interests of implementing the 2030 Agenda.

Session I "Building sustainability and resilience through development cooperation"

29. **Mr. Miranda** (Deputy Minister of Development Cooperation of El Salvador), panellist, said that the cost of mitigating and adapting to climate change placed an unprecedented fiscal burden on developing countries. Nevertheless, they received comparatively little from climate change funds, which continued to be instruments predominantly in the hands of the developed world and international organizations. The principle of efficient access to financial resources, as set forth in the Paris Agreement, was key to addressing climate change in those countries most in need of assistance.

30. National development policy priorities should form the bedrock of international development cooperation and it was essential that donor countries met the ODA target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income. In that regard, the situation of middle-income countries, in particular in Latin America, needed closer examination; per capita income was an inadequate measure of a country's development. The Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Financing for Development of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development had outlined several approaches to funding that could contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Innovative and complementary forms of finance, including blending, public-private partnerships, debt swaps, loans and subsidies and remittance flows were essential. The achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals would also depend on the quality of South-South and triangular cooperation. A project had been launched in El Salvador, in conjunction with the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation, to study how best to engage the private sector in the development agenda.

31. **Mr. Kyslytsya** (Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine), panellist, said that conflict could galvanize the search for solutions to development problems that in peacetime might not receive sufficient political attention. Countries in conflict should seize the opportunities that such extreme situations presented, rather than simply wait for the return of peace. In Ukraine, women were making a growing contribution to the resolution of the country's difficulties and would continue to do so after the war came to an end. An increasing number of women were, for example, active in the security sector. Conflict, however, had exacerbated the incidence of domestic violence, with thousands of demobilized soldiers returning home to face unemployment and turning to alcohol, drugs and crime as a result. For all those reasons, addressing the issue of women's rights had become all the more important.

32. **Mr. Tiwana** (CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation) asked what could be done to ensure that national legislation complied with the international human rights framework, thereby enabling civil society organizations to access ODA funds.

33. **Mr. Sinirlioğlu** (Turkey) said that cooperation between Turkey and Somalia represented a concrete expression of the new way of working initiative that been the fruit of the first World Humanitarian Summit, which had been hosted by Turkey in 2016. Turkish doctors, engineers and teachers were working alongside their Somalian counterparts in a number of areas, delivering humanitarian and development assistance and building capacity. Turkey had allocated $8.1 billion to ODA in 2017, equivalent to 0.95 per cent of gross

national income. Some 80 per cent of that aid was dedicated to the social sector. ODA allocations to basic education had increased, in particular in Afghanistan, where Turkey had built and fitted out 90 schools for girls and boys. Humanitarian aid provided by Turkey had doubled in two years to $7.2 billion in 2017. Between 2010 and 2017, Turkey had earmarked $2.1 billion for assistance to least developed countries. The Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries would be inaugurated in June 2018 and would focus initially on technology needs assessments and issues relating to digital research access. All Member States and partners were invited to support the work of the Bank.

34. **Mr. García Javier** (Observer for the Dominican Republic) said that technology transfer had a key role to play in helping small island developing States to deal with climate change and its impact on agriculture and the availability of natural resources. In addition to increasing ODA, there was a need to identify ways of combining triangular with South-South cooperation. Notwithstanding the common assumption that the latter was merely a complement to North-South cooperation, its impact in Latin America and the Caribbean had been considerable, especially in terms of industrial development and technology transfer.

35. **Mr. Gehlen** (Germany) underlined the need to focus on finding the most effective means of addressing the needs of the poor. The ultimate goals of development cooperation were often obscured by political debate. The creation of a common platform for the delivery of sustainable development for all was a shared responsibility.

36. **Mr. McConnell** (Observer for the Inter-Parliamentary Union) said that the spread of conflict, which had a dramatic impact on development, and increasing migratory flows posed significant challenges to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. Addressing Goal 16 and preventing conflict were therefore essential to success. Democratic, transparent institutions were vital for conflict prevention and peace, the mobilization of domestic resources and the collection of reliable data needed for development. Of equal concern was the situation of young people, who faced growing difficulties in finding employment as the pace of technological change accelerated. Alongside ODA and other forms of development finance, including through the involvement of the private sector, economic growth and development were key to addressing the needs of young people, many of whom were moving to cities and crossing borders in their search for work.

37. **Mr. Miranda** (Deputy Minister of Development Cooperation of El Salvador) reiterated that per capita income was a misleading measure of development and eligibility for aid. Some countries in Latin America and the Caribbean had graduated and would therefore no longer qualify for ODA. Yet inequality was greater there than in any other region. Development and poverty had many dimensions, including education, health care and technology, on the basis of which more comprehensive assessments of the state of development could be made. Countries in the region were working with the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean on that very issue. There was a need to move from a development cooperation approach to one of financing for development and to consider new funding alternatives. Fiscal challenges and the question of debt must also be addressed in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals.

38. **Mr. Kyslytsya** (Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine) said that the involvement of civil society was vital to the success of development cooperation, but that not all civil society and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) had equally credible standing.

39. **Ms. Adamson** (Deputy Head of Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations), panellist, said that, with regard to development, more attention should be paid to the views of those working in the field and more should be done to ensure access to funding by NGOs. The attitude of the United Nations towards NGOs also needed to improve.

40. The European Union encouraged its member States to meet their ODA target commitment of 0.7 per cent of gross national income. Total expenditure by the European Union and its member States on ODA in 2017 had been in the order of $90 billion. The European Union viewed the United Nations as the guardian of the 2030 Agenda, the universality of which it endorsed, and sought to empower countries that received aid. Ultimate responsibility for development policy lay with national governments and their partners. The European Union had recently launched its new European consensus on development, a policy on resilience and an external investment plan. The aim of the latter was to raise €44 billion in public and private investment in Africa and countries neighbouring the European Union by 2020. The European Union was also contributing €500 million to a joint programme with the United Nations to combat gender-based violence and preparing its next multiyear financial framework for the period 2021–2027.

41. The European Union provided direct budget support to national authorities with a view to encouraging them to allocate more resources to the social sector. It took a broad approach to national resilience, aiming to strengthen the preparedness of States, societies, communities and individuals and to bolster their capacity to adapt to potential shocks, whether of a political, socioeconomic, environmental, demographic or security nature. By 2030, 62 per cent of people in extreme poverty were expected to be living in fragile settings, which underlined the need for development cooperation, including ODA, to become disaster-risk informed and sensitive to conflict.

42. Although it could play an important role in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, ODA would never be enough. Interest was therefore growing in leveraging ODA in order to attract private capital. Efforts must also be made to encourage good governance and policies that fostered economic growth in developing countries. The donor community and Governments should look at what more could be done to shape policy regarding young people and to help them to enter the economy.

43. **Mr. Griffiths** (Director, European Network on Debt and Development), panellist, said that ODA was distinguished by the fact that it was a public resource focused on development, the use of which was guided by principles of effectiveness. Although the mobilization of private finance was important, the 2030 Agenda was above all a call to arms for increased public investment in education and health for all and public expenditure on social protection and infrastructure. The main source of finance for such expenditure would naturally come from taxation and the mobilization of domestic resources. Nevertheless, ODA was important as a transfer of valuable public resources from the richest to the poorest countries. Hence the importance of achieving the ODA target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income and meeting climate financing commitments separately rather than as a part of ODA.

44. Some $32 billion in ODA was tied officially and much of the remainder informally, whereby the bulk of aid-related contracts were awarded to firms in the donor countries. It was imperative not to confuse the commercial interests of those firms with the development focus that ODA should have. ODA should be used following the internationally agreed development effectiveness principles. National ownership lay at the heart of those principles. According to a Development Cooperation Forum survey, 67 per cent of the developing countries surveyed had development cooperation plans and most of the remainder were putting such plans into place. Donor countries, however, were not especially keen to support such plans, with 40 per cent of those surveyed using parallel or only partially overlapping schemes to assess how aid should be used. Donors needed to be more serious about supporting national efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. Blended finance, which presented opportunities and risks, amounted to the use of public resources to subsidize private investment. Such subsidized private finance must be untied and safeguards were needed to ensure that its use did not result in the diversion of ODA funds. Blended finance was not suitable for use in low-income countries, to which ODA flows had dwindled. Moreover, country ownership models for using blended finance, which was funnelled through institutions over which developing countries had no influence, had yet to be established.

45. **Mr. González Peña** (Observer for Cuba) underlined the importance of meeting the ODA target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income and implementing a multidimensional approach to the measurement of development and poverty. The North-South breach continued to have a major impact on developing countries. Although Cuba was an island State with few natural resources and a population of only 11 million, it had rich experience in international cooperation, with more than 60,000 technicians currently working in more than 60 countries. The international community should focus on solving problems in the developing and most vulnerable countries rather that investing in the arms race.

46. **Mr. Herawan** (Observer for Indonesia) said that Indonesia had carried out more than 500 programmes in developing countries since 2000 and South-South technical cooperation constituted an integral part of its 2030 Agenda strategy. A single agency for international development cooperation, with a projected aid budget of $760 million in its first five years, would become operational in the second half of 2018.

47. **Mr. Asthana** (India) said that South-South cooperation alone could not be a major vehicle for development or the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. Climate change finance for developing countries agreed to under the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Climate was separate from ODA.

48. **Ms. Padilla** (IBON International Foundation) said that the alignment of institutions with the 2030 Agenda should mean that the basic human rights of marginalized groups in the global South, including women, indigenous peoples and rural populations, were upheld and that their voices were heard at all levels of planning. ODA commitments must be met and development

effectiveness principles applied. There was as yet no way of measuring the development focus of private sector initiatives, including some involving blended finance. The private sector should be held to the same standards of transparency and accountability as other development actors. Much of the aid used in such initiatives was channelled through international development institutions with poor accountability mechanisms and many development projects in the South were having an adverse impact on recipients. The international community, in particular States, needed to do more to scrutinize such projects and ensure accountability in their implementation.

49. **Ms. Cederfelt** (Observer for the Inter-Parliamentary Union) said that effective democratic institutions were important for development and poverty reduction. Alongside free and fair elections, the inclusion of all social groups in decision-making processes and the power of parliament to call Governments to account for their actions were prerequisites for a healthy democracy.

50. **Ms. Ghartey** (Ghana) said that economic, natural and other shocks were best handled at the national level, provided that institutions were strong. Development partners, however, showed little interest in investing ODA in prevention programmes. In Ghana, which was now considered a middle-income country, donors expected the Government to use its own resources to conduct environmental assessments and related work and then simply went ahead and implemented their own programmes.

51. **Ms. Randel** (Co-founder and Strategic Adviser, Development Initiatives) said that much remained to be done to ensure transparency in the use of subsidized private finance for development and in monitoring its impact. The work undertaken by Turkey in Somalia highlighted the potential for combining a range of approaches by different partners to varying aspects of development. While Turkey had demonstrated a greater appetite for risk than other development partners in the case of Somalia, large institutions such as the European Union could make investments on a scale that small contributors could not.

52. **Mr. Griffiths** (Director, European Network on Debt and Development) said that the mobilization of public opinion by civil society had been the key to ensuring the support of political parties and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for meeting that country's ODA target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income. The European Network on Debt and Development, which brought together 46 NGOs from around Europe, focused on encouraging donors to untie development aid and thereby to ensure that it was used well, which in turn would generate public support for ODA. There was an urgent need to improve the transparency of private finance and, to that end, the Network supported open contracting principles to keep all but the genuinely confidential aspects of development aid contracts in the public domain.

53. **Ms. Adamson** (Deputy Head of Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations) said that strong leadership providing sound policies and good governance was needed to enable national authorities, together with broader society and aided by the international community, to assess progress and gaps with regard to development. The paucity of available statistical data that could contribute to such assessments must be addressed. With regard to climate change, the European Union should take the lead by producing and consuming in a responsible fashion and focusing development assistance more on adaptation. Donors should build on existing sources of resilience in developing countries rather than simply implementing their own programmes. One example of the kind of innovative thinking that was increasingly needed with regard to building resilience was a proposal to introduce drought-related insurance in Mali and Niger.

54. **Mr. Miranda** (Deputy Minister of Development Cooperation of El Salvador) said that a council had been established in El Salvador to adopt a national climate change policy. Its members included parliamentarians, clergy and representatives of political parties and environmental groups; climate change and building resilience required broad social consensus. The time had come to examine all aspects of financing for development and, on that basis, establish a strategy for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

55. **Mr. Kyslytsya** (Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine) urged a greater unity of voice among the various international bodies. The matters under discussion in the framework of the Development Cooperation Forum should also be taken up by the Security Council and the human rights treaty bodies. The Sustainable Development Goals could not be achieved without greater coordination at the international level.

56. **Ms. Randel** (Co-founder and Strategic Adviser, Development Initiatives) said that, for all the talk of global and national funding, poor people financed most of their own development. There was a need, therefore, to examine more closely local funding options and opportunities available to those who were most excluded.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.